

# champions club

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# Speaking Of Champions...



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**PARKS AND  
RECREATION**



## Off & Running!

Pay no attention to the chill in the night air. It won't last much longer.

Go directly to your closet, grab your favorite racquet and head to the court.

It's time to play tennis. It's springtime!

At Champions Club, the effect of spring has already sprung. Tennis is off and running at a rapid pace, thanks to collegiate and high school matches playing practically every afternoon at the club. Also, the 217-



Liam Baker admits to going "apes" over tennis

### Did You Know?

- Roger Federer plays the piano
- John McEnroe owns an art gallery in Manhattan
- According to the match scores listed on the ATP website, Bjorn Borg bageled his opponents (sets won 6-0) 116 times from 1973 through 1981, compared to Roger Federer's 52 bagels from 1999 through the 2007 Australian Open.



- tidbits by Tennis Planet

to the Champions Club lineup for 2008 is mid-April's Southern States Athletic Conference tournament, which features NAIA member Lee University as the host participant.

As usual, Champions serves the juniors well, hosting a 24-team high school event, middle school tournaments (public and private), two junior novice tournaments, the National Open 12s, USTA Southern Team Championships, and the Tennessee State Junior Closed Championships.

As for the adults, Champions will be the site for local and state league playoffs and will host the annual UTC/Baras Collegiate Fall Classic.

player spring leagues kicked off in late March and the local USTA playoffs begin the first weekend of April.

An added addition

"We should encourage fans to scream or boo if they like, just like in baseball and football. This sport has too much stuffiness and protocol. It needs more pizzazz."

— tennis legend & WTA spokesperson Billie Jean King



Jack Reid

## Do You Know? ... Jack Reid

To hear him jokingly boast, Jack Reid has never met an opponent on the tennis court that he couldn't send home in defeat. Forget that within the past decade Reid, in his 70s, has had open-heart surgery, prostate cancer, a hernia removed, an aneurysm, and a broken foot in two

Also, forget that Reid always plays the best competition possible. And he's always the eldest player on the court.

Does Jack Reid always win? Of course not. Does he always talk big? Of course he does.

"That's just me," Jack adds. "I talk big to get everybody relaxed. Well, mainly to get myself relaxed, to be truthful about it."

Reid, the owner and manager of the Chattanooga Surveying Company, started playing tennis at age 43 and shortly afterwards teamed with Orlando Lourenco in a Men's Open league and Tom Chandler in a Men's 4.5 doubles event. In fact, Jack and his partners have won or placed in 43 league tournaments.

"Jack is always fun to play with because we get along and even though we always want to win, we don't take it too seriously," points out Chandler, who remains Reid's primary doubles partner.

Tom and Jack create a unique doubles tandem. Jack, who displays unbelievable hands with volleys at the net, generally covers an area near one of the doubles alleys while Tom takes care of the rest.

(Continued On Page 4)

## Do You Know? ... Bernadette Dorris

Once upon a time, Bernadette Dorris was a tennis spectator, not a tennis player. Sure, she was always at the court, watching her husband and three children play the game, but seldom on the court.

Time has changed.

It wasn't so long ago when Bernadette and her daughter, Danika, were playing tennis on adjacent courts and it started raining. No, pouring.

Danika stopped. Bernadette didn't.

"I was trying to finish the match, but finally did have to give up," Bernadette recalls. "But the icing on the cake was when (Champions Club regular) Gary Yerbey (jokingly) remarked, 'It's really something when the daughter has more sense than the mother.'"

Point made. Bernadette Dorris has become a tennis player.

The 47-year-old Financial Systems Manager at Erlanger Health System started playing tennis only two years

ago in a CTA women's singles league and then the 3.0 women's singles and doubles leagues at Champions. She now plays 3.5.

"My tennis highlight was when I became good enough to play some rallies against my family," says Bernadette.

Bernadette and John — her husband of nearly 20 years (they met in grad school at

Penn State in 1985 — have two sons, Ted (age 17) and John Jr. (age 15) and 11-year-old Danika.

Ted and John play tennis at Notre Dame High School and Danika for OLPH.

"Our family cannot function too well without music," Bernadette adds.

"We do practically everything to music."

Ted plays keyboards, piano and guitar, while John plays piano and guitar and Danika the piano and drums.

Outside of tennis, Bernadette lists other interests as cooking, listening to music, dabbling in crochet, needlework and watching team sports like basketball.

But make no doubt about it. She's a tennis player now.

"I don't need presents on my birthday," she says. "A great present would be the entire family out playing tennis."



Bernadette Dorris





"I never considered myself as a pin-up. I never will."

— Maria Sharapova

## MONTGOMERY, BROUNER PLAYERS OF THE MONTH

### Hayden Montgomery

**Age/Birthday/Zodiac Sign:** 16/May 29/Gemini

**School/Grade:** Notre Dame High School/Junior

**Favorite Subject:** History

**Favorite Restaurant/Food:** Moe's Southwestern Grill/Mexican food

**Favorite Movie:** Super Bad

**Favorite Type of Music/Favorite Music Artist:** Hip-hop/Lil Wayne

**Hobbies Outside Of Tennis:** Working on automobiles and weight-lifting

**Who Introduced You To Tennis?** My dad

**Began Playing Tennis:** Third grade

**Favorite Shot:** Backhand

**Favorite Pro Players:** Rafael Nadal (male), Venus Williams (female)

**Tennis Racquet You Use:** Prince Graphite

**Best Tennis Memory/Highlight:** "It was winning the Doris Free-land Tournament."

**Notre Dame coach Anne Ricksecker on Hayden:** "Hayden's one of the hardest workers on the team and his game has improved dramatically since he started playing for Notre Dame."



Hayden Montgomery

### Jennifer Brouner

**Age/Birthday/Zodiac Sign:** 17/May 5/Taurus

**School/Grade:** Notre Dame High School/Senior

**Favorite Subject:** AP Environmental Science

**Favorite Restaurant/Food:** Olive Garden/Spaghetti

**Favorite Movie:** Harry Potter and the Prisoner Of Azkaban

**Favorite Type of Music/Favorite Musical Artist:** All music/Keith Urban

**Hobbies Outside Of Tennis:** Hanging out with friends

**Who Introduced You To Tennis?** My parents (Lee and Betsy)

**Began Playing Tennis:** First grade (age 6)

**Favorite Shot:** The forehand

**Favorite Pro Players:** Andy Roddick

**Tennis Racquet You Use:** Prince Shark

**Best Tennis Memory/Highlight:** "It was the District 6-A/AA Tournament of 2007."

**Notre Dame coach Anne Ricksecker on Jennifer:** "Jennifer's a tough competitor and a good player. I know I can count on her to give me her best every time she steps on the court for Notre Dame."



Jennifer Brouner

## CCS Teams Seek Champions Repeats

All eyes are on the Chattanooga Christian School tennis teams. Don't all defending champions say the same thing?

Sue Webb's squads aim for three-peats in mid-April in the 2008 Champions Club High School Classic, a 24-team annual event which packs plenty of prep tennis into two days.

The Chargers and Lady Chargers captured both the A division titles last year, the boys accumulating 62 points to runner-up McMinn County's 50. Cleveland finished third (49) and Rhea County fourth (42). The CCS girls piled up 65 points to hold off Murfreesboro Siegel (60), Red Bank (49) and CSAS (42).

The Notre Dame girls won the B division last year, while the Notre Dame boys and Grace Academy shared the Boys' B top prize.

"There are a lot of good schools in the tournament, for sure," points out Webb. "There's a lot of good competition."

The CCS boys return only two players (Jonny Herberich and Andy

Driggs) from the top six in 2007, and will also be without the services of No. 1 talent Will Reynolds for '08, who will be playing a USTA event.

The CCS girls have three players from the top six returning — Ashlyn Bolton, Holly Scholl and Claire Henley.

"It'll be interesting," adds Webb. "We'll just have to see how things go."

Schools in the event fielding both boys and girls squads are Rhea County, Notre Dame, Soddy-Daisy, Red Bank, Walker Valley, CCS, Ooltewah, McMinn County, Cleveland and CSAS. Other boys' teams are Grace and University School of Nashville, while rounding out the girls' brackets are Murfreesboro schools Blackman and Siegel.

Eight teams battle for A division championships using a full feed-in draw, while four squads collide in a round-robin format in the B division playoffs.

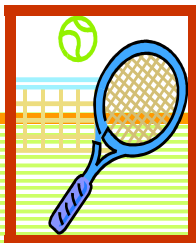
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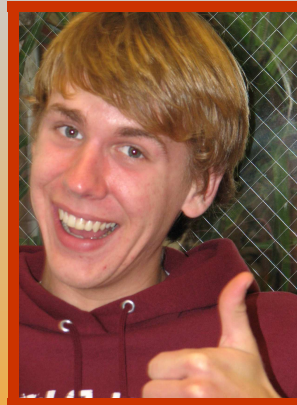
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## A Champions Tip ...

**From Zach Smith**

Champions Club staff,  
Lee University freshman tennis player

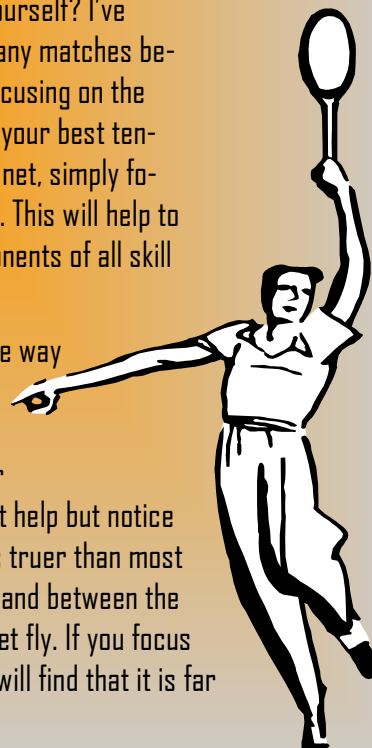
## Two Things To Know Before The Spring League



Here are two things I have found to help me a great deal recently. If applied, these things will help to reduce unnecessary tension and difficulty in your game as well.

1. Don't focus on your opponent's skill (or lack of it) too much. How many times have you lost a match to someone you felt was far inferior to yourself? I've done it too many times to count! Conversely, I have lost many matches because I was too busy admiring my opponent. Either way, focusing on the skill level of your opponent will only keep you from playing your best tennis. Regardless of who is standing on the other side of the net, simply focus on the task at hand and the ball coming across the net. This will help to bring some consistency to your performance against opponents of all skill levels.

2. Loosen up that grip. A tight grip causes tension all the way up the arm and shoulder, impeding your stroke and decreasing power. A loose grip will lead to more economic and penetrating strokes. When watching players like Roger Federer, Gustavo Kuerten, and Marcos Baghdatis, one can't help but notice how effortless and loose their strokes look. This thought is truer than most of us realize. Most of the hard work lies beneath the waist and between the ears. Don't force the issue — just relax and let your racquet fly. If you focus on using that racquet head speed to produce topspin, you will find that it is far safer to swing harder than it is to guide the ball over.



## Do You Know? ... Jack Reid

(Continued from Page 2)

"I always thought it was good for me because I could get a lot of overhead practice, serve-and-volley, and do a lot of running," states Chandler. "I credit Jack for me having good serves and overhead, but blame him for my arthritic knee ... ha-ha."

Reid explains that he's never played with a partner in doubles that wasn't young enough to be his son or that wasn't much, much better in tennis.

"But people who know me, know that, and I can guarantee it," Jack adds.

Jack has three daughters (Terri, Tina and Jennifer) and one grandson (Bryson Harris). Besides tennis, he notes that he enjoys most sports, but, as he puts it, "... only to watch at my age."

But Jack can still play the game.

"The love of tennis keeps me going, as well as the people I play with," he says.

Chandler best summed up his partnership with Jack, stating, "I always like seeing the look of disbelief some opponents have at some of the shots Jack could come up with, or when we won."

So does Jack Reid.